



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

17 MARCH 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Wasco – Inmate Suspected in Death of Cellmate at California Prison

(U) The death of an inmate at a California prison is being investigated as a homicide and the victim's cellmate is a suspect, officials said yesterday. Scott Gunter, 59, was found unresponsive Tuesday in his cell at Wasco State Prison, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation said in a statement. Staff attempted life-saving measures, but Gunter died about a half-hour later. The Kern County Coroner will determine the official cause of death. Gunter's cellmate, Eugene Stroud, is a suspect in the case, prison officials said. Gunter entered the prison on 23 February to serve a two-year sentence for failing to register as a sex offender, the statement said.

SOURCE: 17 March 2022, [AP](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) New York – Five People Charged with Acting as Chinese Government Agents

(U) Brooklyn – Federal prosecutors in Brooklyn have charged five people with acting on behalf of the Chinese secret police to stalk, spy on and harass US residents critical of Beijing, officials announced yesterday. The defendants were charged in three separate cases brought by the US attorney for the Eastern District of New York as part of the Justice Department's new strategy to counter nation-state threats. The five defendants are accused of aiding the Chinese government's efforts to harass, stalk and surveil Chinese nationals living in Queens and elsewhere in the United States. In one case, a defendant allegedly tried to derail the candidacy of a US military veteran running for Congress who had been a student leader at the 1989 pro-democracy demonstration in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

SOURCE: 16 March 2022, [Washington Post](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – US Families, Some Personnel Depart Mexico Consulate

(U) Nuevo Laredo – The United States authorized the departure of families and some personnel yesterday at the US consulate in the border city of Nuevo Laredo. The move came after drug cartel gunmen fired at the US consulate building in Nuevo Laredo, across the border from Laredo, Texas, Sunday night. The Department of State authorized the departure of non-emergency US government personnel and eligible family members from the US Consulate General in Nuevo Laredo due to security conditions. As of 15 March, the Department of State is not able to offer routine consular services from the US Consulate General in Nuevo Laredo. The department also advised US citizens not to travel to Tamaulipas, the state where Nuevo Laredo is located, citing crime and safety concerns.

SOURCE: 16 March 2022, [ABC](#)

(U) Morocco – Five Suspected Terrorists Linked to Islamic State Arrested

(U) Rabat – Five suspects affiliated with ISIS and were planning attacks on security forces and government officials, have been arrested in a new anti-terrorism sweep in Morocco. The five men, aged between 21 and 44, were apprehended in separate but simultaneous operations in several towns and

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villages in the west and south of the country, the Central Bureau of Judicial Investigation (BCIJ), which is in charge of counterterrorism operations, said in a statement. The suspects were taken into custody. The suspects allegedly identified security and military sites and government facilities as targets. According to the preliminary investigation, they were also planning "physical liquidations" of members of the security forces and the government "in addition to targeting financial and banking establishments to secure the resources and financing necessary for terrorist operations

SOURCE: 16 March 2022, [Africa News](#)

(U) Nigeria – Seven Police, Four Villagers Killed in Terrorist Attacks

(U) Magama – Gunmen on Tuesday killed 11 security personnel, including seven policemen and four vigilantes, in attacks in central and northwestern Nigeria, in the latest violence blamed on heavily armed criminal gangs. Northwest and central Nigeria have been terrorized for years by the gangs who raid and loot villages, steal cattle and carry out mass abductions of residents for ransom. But recently attacks have intensified despite military attempts to drive bandits out of their camps in forests. In the first attack on Tuesday, scores of bandits stormed a police station in central Niger state's Magama district, leading to a gunfight with policemen and local militia.

SOURCE: 16 March 2022, [AFP](#)

(U) Ukraine – Security Service Detains 'Hacker' Who Provided Support to Russian Troops

(U) Wakiso – The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) said it detained a "hacker" who offered technical assistance to the invading Russian troops by providing mobile communication services inside the Ukrainian territory, media reported today. The anonymous suspect is said to have broadcasted text messages to Ukrainian officials, including security officers and civil servants, proposing that they surrender and take the side of Russia. The individual has also been accused of routing phone calls from Russia to the mobile phones of Russian troops in Ukraine. Besides implicating the hacker for helping Russia make anonymous phone calls to its military forces based in Ukraine, the agency said the hacker passed commands and instructions to different groups of "Russian invaders."

SOURCE: 16 March 2022, [CNN](#)

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